

REMARKS

Claims 1-34, and 59-75 remain pending in the application. Claims 35-58 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 59 has been amended without introduction of new matter. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The allowance of claims 1-34 and 60-75, and the indication that claim 59 defines allowable subject matter are noted with appreciation. In response, claim 59 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 59 should not be in condition for allowance.

Claims 55-58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Gambina et al. (US006393258B1).

This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 55-58 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 55-58 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of same is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: June 9, 2007

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